



BOROUGH OF UXBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1959

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(Certificate of Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene)

Clerks:

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MR. B. E. HUNTLEY.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1959

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

Tel.: UXBRIDGE 38232

259, HIGH STREET,

UXBRIDGE.

July, 1960

**TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE UXBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

This report will show that 1959 was a comparatively uneventful year as far as the Public Health field was concerned. The main statistics may be regarded as generally satisfactory, but of course, in this work, one can never be completely satisfied as long as any unexplained happening takes place. This is particularly exemplified in respect of infant deaths—in spite of all that can be done, there still remains a hard core of mortality on which it is most difficult to make any impression. The table setting out the causes of these infant deaths will illustrate the conditions involved, and it will be realised how little is known as to the causation of these, often obscure, conditions. These same causes are also the main factors involved in still birth, so that there is here a very promising field for intense research which has, as its ultimate aim, the saving of a considerable amount of infant life which is at present wasted. Research along these lines has, of course, been going on for some time, but owing to the obscurity of the conditions involved, progress is necessarily slow and it may be some years before much is seen in the way of results.

At the other end of the span of life, heart disease, disease of the arteries, and cancer continue to take their toll—infections now are no longer a serious problem as causes of death. Cancer of the lung continues to give rise to serious anxiety and the solution of this riddle seems to be no nearer in spite of all the work being done on it all over the world. Nothing has yet been found to contradict the fact that heavy cigarette smoking is a contributory cause—and so one preventive measure, at least, is very obvious.

The local figures, fortunately, are slightly down on the previous year, and are fractionally below the national level—but in dealing with such comparatively small numbers violent fluctuations may be expected from year to year and the only true test is to look at the figures over a period of years, as is done in the body of the report.

The incidence of measles was not quite as heavy as had been expected—there were under 1,000 cases, as against over 1,300 in 1957, the previous “measles” year.

Once again, there was no case of diphtheria; the necessity for pursuing, with all possible vigour, those immunising procedures now available to us, has been stressed in every annual report in recent years, but the message cannot be repeated too often. The absence of disease from a community can only be guaranteed where resistance is kept high by adequate immunisation. There was no case of poliomyelitis during the year; it is to be hoped that subsequent years will show that this disease, too, is under control. It may be mentioned that improved methods of immunisation against poliomyelitis are under trial, which should, if successful, be a very potent weapon in the fight against this disease.

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector will show what a volume of work has been undertaken in the environmental field. Most of this routine work is mundane, unspectacular, and of no interest as long as it is successful. Public Health only hits the news headlines when it fails and as a result some epidemic breaks out—its success is inversely proportional to the amount of publicity it gets.

During the year the Department has been frequently in difficulty owing to illness, and in this connection I can now pay tribute to the unfailing loyalty and attention to duty shown by Mr. Baughan, the Chief Public Health Inspector, during his long and distressing disability, which has, unfortunately, since resulted in his premature retirement. Mr. Baughan's concern for the department and conscientious attention to duty have been an example to all those privileged to work with him; possibly this very concern has been a major factor in his unfortunate illness. During all these recent years in which I have worked with Mr. Baughan, I have experienced nothing but absolute loyalty, complete co-operation, and, in addition, there has been an exceptional fund of knowledge and professional skill upon which to draw; I therefore place on record how much I am indebted to him for his help. The other members of the department, during the year, have co-operated extremely well under difficult conditions, and I am grateful to them for their efforts. The local general practitioners and hospital staffs have been, as always, most helpful in the effort

to make the tripartite health service a workable entity. Finally, the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee always have been ready to give advice, help and encouragement when needed; the knowledge that this support is there is one of the most gratifying features of the work.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

O. C. DOBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area—acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,240
Population—Registrar General's estimate for mid-year 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	63,730
Number of inhabited dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,736
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,112,019
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£4,580

VITAL STATISTICS

Total Live Births:

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	494	537	1,031
Illegitimate	...	...	17	16	33
			—	—	—
Totals	...	...	511	553	1,064
			—	—	—

Birth Rate per 1,000 population:

Uxbridge	{	Crude	...	...	16·7
		Corrected	...	...	15·0

England and Wales... 16·5

Area Comparability Factor: 0·90.

Illegitimate Live Births:

	Male	Female	Total
	17	16	33
	—	—	—

Per cent of total live births: 3·1 %.

Still Births:

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	12	12	24
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
			—	—	—
			12	12	24
			—	—	—

Rate per thousand live and still births: 22·0.

Total Live and Still Births:

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	506	549	1,055
Illegitimate	...	...	17	16	33
			—	—	—
			523	565	1,088
			—	—	—

These births occurred as under:

	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
At home	356	3
In hospitals, nursing homes or other maternity establishments	708	21
	<hr/> 1,064 <hr/>	<hr/> 24 <hr/>

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age):

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	11	20
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/> 10 <hr/>	<hr/> 11 <hr/>	<hr/> 21 <hr/>

Infant Death Rate per 1,000 total live births:

Uxbridge	19·7
England and Wales...	22·0
Legitimate—rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	19·4
Illegitimate—rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	30·3

Neo-natal Deaths (under 4 weeks of age):

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	11	20
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/> 10 <hr/>	<hr/> 11 <hr/>	<hr/> 21 <hr/>

Rate per 1,000 total live births: 19·7.

Early Neo-natal Deaths (under 1 week of age):

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	10	19
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 9 <hr/>	<hr/> 10 <hr/>	<hr/> 19 <hr/>

Rate per 1,000 total live births: 17·9.

Perinatal Deaths (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined):

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	21	22	43
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 21 <hr/>	<hr/> 22 <hr/>	<hr/> 43 <hr/>

Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 39·5.

Maternal Deaths:

Total	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Rate per 1,000 live and still births:					Uxbridge 0·92
					England and Wales 0·38

Deaths from all causes:

	Male	Female	Total
	293	289	582
		—	—

Death Rate per 1,000 population:

Uxbridge	{ Crude	...	...	9·1
	{ Corrected	...	...	11·7
England and Wales		...	...	11·6

Area Comparability Factor: 1·29.

INFANT MORTALITY

The following table gives details of deaths of those infants who were resident in the Borough:—

Date of Death	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
19. 2.59	2 weeks	F	Myocarditis. Prematurity.
21. 3.59	3 hours	M	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
6. 4.59	30 minutes	F	Neonatal.
12. 4.59	15 hours	F	Intra-ventricular hæmorrhage. Atelectasis.
23. 4.59	2 days	M	Atelectasis.
29. 5.59	16 hours	M	Intracranial hæmorrhage. Breech delivery. Twin.
3. 6.59	12 hours	F	Hyline membrane disease. Prematurity.
8. 6.59	6 hours	M	Prematurity.
6. 7.59	30 minutes	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
25. 8.59	2 weeks	M	Pyelonephritis. Congenital imperforate anus.
10. 9.59	11 hours	M	Prematurity.
17.10.59	3 days	M	Bronchitis and Bronchopneumonia due to œsophageal atresia.
1.11.59	1 day	F	Pulmonary Atelectasis.
15.11.59	2 hours	F	Prematurity.
17.11.59	1 minute	F	Asphyxia. Atelectasis of lungs. Congenital causes.
18.11.59	1 day	M	Atelectasis due to prematurity.
5.12.59	8 hours	F	Erythroblastosis foetalis.
11.12.59	1 day	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
22.12.59	45 minutes	M	Prematurity.
24.12.59	7 hours	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
25.12.59	2 days	M	Atelectasis. Prematurity.

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Year	1951	1953	1955	1957	1959
Population	55,060	56,000	57,940	60,780	63,730
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	16	14	13	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	19	16	27	31	29
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	7	8	11	8	15
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	4	4	4	5	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	52	43	52	47	50
Totals	93	87	108	104	110
Rates per 1,000 of population					
UXBRIDGE					
All causes	1·7	1·6	1·9	1·7	1·7
Lung and bronchus ...	0·34	0·29	0·47	0·51	0·45
ENGLAND AND WALES					
All causes	2·0	2·0	2·1	2·1	2·1
Lung and bronchus ...	0·30	0·34	0·39	0·42	0·46

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics.

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1
Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	1	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	6	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	24	5	29
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	15	15
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	23	50
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	3	1	4
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	36	39	75
Coronary disease, angina	59	34	93
Hypertension with heart disease	2	8	10
Other heart disease	29	46	75
Other circulatory disease	12	16	28
Influenza	—	8	8
Pneumonia	16	18	34
Bronchitis	23	6	29
Other disease of respiratory system ...	5	6	11
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	3	1	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	19	31	50
Motor vehicle accidents	7	4	11
All other accidents	6	4	10
Suicide	2	4	6
Homicide and operations of war	1	2	3
All causes	293	289	582

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases during 1959 and gives comparisons with the previous year.

Disease	Ages of Cases Notified							Total 1959	Total 1958	Deaths	
	Under One Year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over			1959	1958
Scarlet Fever ...	1	13	24	61	7	1	—	107	64	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	3	4	1	—	—	10	16	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	28	231	258	410	12	4	6	949	343	—	—
Pneumonia ...	3	7	3	2	—	—	18	33	74	34	34
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
” (non-paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (infective) ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
(post-infectious) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	34	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	58	67	125	111	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	2	—	—
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) ...	—	1	1	—	—	6	18	26	27	1	4
(non-pulmonary) ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	6	1	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	1	2	1	8	12	18	—	—

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of vaccinations carried out during the year under arrangements made by the Middlesex County Council.

Age	Vaccination	Revaccination
Under 1	711	—
1	34	—
2—4	19	4
5—14	32	26
15 and over	34	138
TOTALS	830	168

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of vaccinations carried out during the year under arrangements made by the Middlesex County Council.

Age	Vaccination
Under 1	153
1	682
2—4	409
5—14	1,052
15 and over	4,545
TOTAL	6,841

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the numbers of children immunised during the year at Middlesex County Council Welfare Clinics or by private medical practitioners.

Age	Primary Immunisation			Reinforcing Injections		
	Diph- theria only	Combined Diph- theria and Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough only	Diph- theria only	Combined Diph- theria and Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough only
Under 1	244	505	242	—	—	—
1	161	77	156	—	—	—
2—4	12	25	7	18	17	3
5—14	48	12	—	439	115	2
15 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	465	619	405	457	132	5

There have been no cases of diphtheria in Uxbridge since 1946. The following figures show the decline brought about by immunisation, and are a reminder that only by maintaining a high level of immunisation among children will this disease be held in check.

Year	Deaths		Cases	
	England and Wales	Uxbridge	England and Wales	Uxbridge
1940	2,480	2	46,281	43
1945	722	—	25,246	1
1950	49	—	962	—
1955	13	—	155	—
1956	8	—	53	—
1957	6	—	37	—
1958	8	—	80	—

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

The following summary shows the inspections and other duties carried out by the Inspectorate during the year 1959, when a total of 5,207 visits were made.

Houses inspected under Housing Act	102
Premises visited under Public Health Acts	435
Re-visits to houses and other premises	950
Visits to works in progress	246
Unclassified visits	179
Visits to factories	199
„ outworkers' premises	140
„ old metal dealers' premises	7
„ food premises (see table on page 21)	522
„ piggeries	82
„ gypsy encampments and caravans	11
„ tents, vans, sheds	3
„ common lodging houses	4
„ school premises	20
„ public conveniences	3
„ swimming pool	12
„ petroleum installations	220
Visits <i>re</i> Rent Act	187
„ Shops Acts	336
„ Pet Animals Act	8
„ unsound food	79
„ nuisances from animals	51
„ accumulation of refuse	79
„ drainage and cesspools	245
„ ponds and ditches	37
„ rats and mice	34
„ insect pests	173
„ infectious diseases	257
„ alleged overcrowding	21
„ Council houses	18
„ permitted numbers of occupants	16
„ smoke nuisances	103
Smoke observations	174
Council houses inspected	2
Water samples taken	43
Milk samples taken	32
Ice Cream samples taken	14

Interviews	163
Informal Notices served	401
Statutory Notices served	16

HOUSING

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	297
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	415
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	222

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	159
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(b) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	13
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	1

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	2
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	1
(3) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of undertakings given by owners	...	...	...	1
(4) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure	...	...	...	17

(d) *Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

With reference to the four properties in Item 1 (3) above, the following action was taken:—

(i) *Demolition Orders.*

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the under-mentioned properties:—

Goulds Green Farm Cottage, Hillingdon.

The Lodge, Moorcroft, Hillingdon.

(ii) *Closing Orders.*

A Closing Order was made in respect of the under-mentioned property:—

Jarvis Bungalow, Uxbridge Road, Hillingdon.

(iii) *Undertakings not to use for human habitation.*

An Undertaking was given by the owner that the following premises would not be used for human habitation until they were either demolished or works of repair carried out which would render the house fit for human habitation:—

84, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.

With reference to Item 3 (d) (i) above a Closing Order was made in respect of the following:

22a, Windsor Street, Uxbridge—two rooms over shop.

SLUM CLEARANCE

The position reached in the Council's slum clearance programme is as follows:—

Number of houses in the programme submitted to the						
Ministry in 1955	...	...	...	...	...	350
Number of houses dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	168
Number of houses remaining	...	...	...	...	...	182

In addition, ten properties not included in the 1955 list have been demolished or closed.

In the post-war period prior to the Council's programme being submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1955, clearance action was taken in respect of 63 properties, making a total of 241 houses dealt with since 1947.

If owners take advantage of the facilities now available for improvement grants and the provisions of the Rent Act, 1957, with regard to increase of rent, it is considered that many of the 182 houses remaining to be dealt with can be rendered reasonably fit for human habitation for a further period of fifteen or more years.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

The following table shows the action taken during the year under review with regard to Certificates of Disrepair, under the Rent Act, 1957.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair:

1.	Number of applications for Certificates	...	...	17
2.	Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	...	...	1
3.	Number of decisions to issue Certificates:			
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	...	10
	(b) in respect of all defects	...	...	6
4.	Number of undertakings given by landlords under para. 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	8
5.	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to para. 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	Nil
6.	Number of Certificates issued	...	...	4

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair on Completion of Specified Works:

7.	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	...	...	11
8.	Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	...	...	1
9.	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	...	...	Nil
10.	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	...	13

NUISANCES

One thousand three hundred and thirty-four individual complaints were received relating to the following matters:

Insanitary condition of house	...	...	...	11
General defects	...	...	...	46
Defective chimneys and fireplaces	...	...		10
„ walls and ceilings	...	...	...	11
„ floors	...	...	...	6
„ roofs and guttering	...	...	...	8
„ drains and sanitary fittings	...	...		132
„ water storage tanks and fittings	...			9
„ sinks and wash-hand basins	...			2
„ dustbins	...	...	...	20
Nuisance from dampness	...	...	...	21
Overcrowding	...	...	...	7
Verminous premises	...	...	...	8
Wasps' nests	...	...	...	443
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	56
Nuisance from keeping animals	...	...		10
„ „ gypsies	...	...	...	3
„ „ rats or mice	...	...	...	402
„ „ ponds or ditches	...	...		6
„ „ insect pests	...	...	...	72
„ „ smoke	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous nuisances...	...	...	...	45

FACTORIES

The following tables show the number of inspections made, defects found, and the result of action taken.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written notices	Occupier prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	19	15	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	209	176	11	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	5	8	—	—
TOTAL	233	199	11	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	11	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to home work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	11	11	—	—	—

3. OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel {	Making etc.	4				
	Cleaning and Washing					
Curtains and furniture hangings	7					
Artificial flowers	23					
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	97					
TOTAL	131					

Not all of the above outworkers live in the Borough, and in addition notifications are received of residents employed by firms in other local authority areas.

During the year 140 visits of inspection were made to the homes of outworkers residing in the Borough; all the premises were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

During the year 220 visits were paid to the 103 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit and/or petroleum mixtures.

In continuation of the policy commenced in November, 1951, the testing of underground storage tanks of twenty or more years' existence has been carried out during the year. Six tanks installed for twenty years and two tanks installed for twenty-five years were subjected to the approved gravitation test and all were found to be satisfactory.

DEALERS IN OLD METAL AND MARINE STORES

On 12th January, 1953, the Secretary of State made an Order, at the request of the Council, bringing into operation the provisions of Section 86 of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, which requires dealers in old metal to register their names and addresses with the Council and keep records as laid down in the Act.

The names and addresses of eleven dealers are registered.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are no heavy industries in the districts and such industrial undertakings as exist are in the main situated in the township of Uxbridge, where the establishment of an industrial estate has tended to concentrate these activities in a selected zone. Apart from the foregoing there is a number of large establishments using commercial-type steam-raising plant, i.e. factories, hospitals, and schools, and these are principally located in Hillingdon and Harefield.

During the year a regular check has been made of those chimneys which in the past have been the subject of complaints and a total of 174 observations were made, of which 34 were each of thirty minutes duration. It is gratifying to report that there has been a consistently improved performance from the various plants, and this is due in a large measure to the decision of the managements concerned to use either a recently introduced industrial coke or more suitable hard coal. In only four instances, all from the same factory, was smoke found to be emitted of such density and duration as to contravene the provisions of the Clean Air Act, and the improvement which followed discussions with the company has been maintained.

WATER SUPPLY

The piped supply of the Borough is provided from the mains of the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, and has been adequate for the requirements of the area.

During the year nine samples of water have been taken in the Uxbridge town area, the district formerly served by the Council's water undertaking, and eighteen samples taken in the outer areas. All of the twenty-seven samples were submitted to the Regional Public Health Laboratory for examination, and each was found to be of high bacterial purity and safe for drinking purposes.

The number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied from the public mains are estimated to be as follows:

	<i>Number of</i> <i>Dwelling-houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
Direct to the house ...	17,735	63,726
By means of stand-pipes ...	1	4

During the year fifteen samples have been taken from the deep wells supplying five factories where water is used for industrial purposes, food preparation and/or drinking purposes. The Laboratory reports showed the water from all the wells to be satisfactory. One sample was taken from the distribution system at Harefield Hospital, and found to be satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOL

The Council's swimming pool was open to the public during the season May to September.

As in previous years the routine examination of the swimming pool water was carried out throughout the season, frequent tests being made to establish the degree of free chlorine present in the water. The results fluctuated according to the numbers of bathers using the pool, but on no occasion was it found that the amount of available free chlorine present was reduced below the minimum desirable standard.

FOOD HYGIENE

During the whole of the year under review, the department was again below strength to the extent of one district inspector and the situation was aggravated by the protracted illness of another inspector which caused an unavoidable reduction in the amount of time given to the routine work of food hygiene. Attention was therefore concentrated on those premises which, by the nature of their business, were considered to be most in need of supervision.

During the year several complaints were made to this department concerning various kinds of foodstuffs purchased in the district, and in each case the matter was investigated and, where considered appropriate, was reported to the Public Health Committee. On the instructions of the Council, warning letters were sent in several instances. In the one case in which proceedings were taken, which was in respect of a used bandage found in a loaf of bread, the baker concerned pleaded guilty and was given a conditional discharge and ordered to pay the Council's costs.

The following tables give an indication of the nature and extent of the inspections made and action taken:—

(a) INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Type of Premises	Premises		Visits Made	Notices Served
	Total No.	Inspected		
Restaurants and Cafes ...	50	41	119	14
Industrial Canteens	41	10	13	3
School Canteens	19	4	7	1
Ice Cream Premises	119	17	21	—
Licensed Premises	67	3	4	—
Milk Distributors' Premises ...	18	4	4	—
Preserved Food Premises ...	18	1	1	—
Bakehouses	14	6	33	5
Bakers' Shops	21	7	24	1
Butchers' Shops	40	27	73	11
Grocer Shops and Wholesale Depots	97	39	99	19
Wet Fish Shops	14	12	49	—
Fried Fish Shops	12	8	20	3
Confectioners' Shops	67	3	5	—
Greengrocers' Shops	37	20	48	9
Food Hawkers' Premises ...	5	2	2	—
TOTALS	639	204	522	66

(b) REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

Act or Regulation	Type of Premises	No. of Premises
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16 ...	Ice Cream	105
	Preserved Food	18
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ...	Distributors of Milk	18
Middlesex County Council Act, 1950, Section 11	Food Hawkers	5
		146

(c) DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Water Closets:

Insufficient ventilation	1
Lack of intervening space	3
Dirty W.C. compartment	2
Lack of “ Hand Washing ” notice	14
	— 20

Sinks:

Absence of sink	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Defective or insanitary sink	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Hot water required to sink	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Cold water required to sink	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Insanitary wall surfaces around sink	...	...	...	...	...	2	
						—	9

Washing and other Facilities for Staff:

Absence of or defective hand basin	...	...	...	...	...	4	
„ „ hot water	...	...	...	...	...	8	
„ „ cold water	...	...	...	...	...	2	
„ „ soap or detergent	...	...	...	...	...	2	
„ „ nailbrushes	...	...	...	...	...	10	
„ „ suitable First Aid material	...	...	...	...	...	3	
						—	29

Uncleanliness:

Personal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	
Food Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
Preparation rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	
Preparation surfaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Dining rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	
Handling of foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	
Foodstuffs less than 18 in. from ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
							—	46

Utensils:

Defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
							—	3

Refrigerators, etc.:

Defective controlled temperature store	...	...	...	...	...	1	
						—	1

Refuse:

Defective or insufficient dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	6	
Accumulations of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	...	2	
						—	8

Rats and Mice:

Number of infestations	...	...	...	...	...	34	
Rat-proofing	...	...	...	...	...	3	
						—	37

General Defects:

Defective plaster (number of rooms)	...	...	3
Defective floors	...	...	4
Insanitary condition of walls and ceilings (number of rooms)	...	...	1
Defective yard paving	...	...	2
Inadequate ventilation	...	...	1
		—	11
		TOTAL	164

MEAT INSPECTION

(i) Butchers' Shops.

During the year 3 cwts. 41 lbs. of fresh meat, home killed and imported, was found to be unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

(ii) Slaughterhouses.

There are no public or private slaughterhouses in the area.

UN SOUND FOOD

The total amount of food (other than butchers' meat) surrendered for destruction during the year was 1 ton 11 cwts. 54 lbs., as shown in the following table.

Class of Food						Quantity		
						Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Meat—tinned	...	...	...	...	...		13	71
Soup—tinned	...	...	...	...	...			108
Fish—tinned	...	...	...	...	...			37
Fish—frozen	...	...	...	...	...			7
Milk—tinned	...	...	...	...	...			85
Fruit—tinned	...	...	...	...	...		5	22
Fruit—dried	...	...	...	...	...			33
Vegetables—tinned	...	...	...	...	...		9	58
Vegetables—frozen	...	...	...	...	...			18
Jam and Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...			37
Cereals	...	...	...	...	...			18
Pickles and Sauces	...	...	...	...	...			8
						1	11	54

In the absence of a local authority refuse destructor all unsound food for disposal is treated with an application of strong disinfectant, containers being broken open for this purpose, and is then buried under supervision of a member of the staff of the Public Health Department at the Council's refuse tip.

MILK SUPPLY

The responsibilities of this Authority under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders are limited to the supervision of dairies and retail distributors' premises.

(a) PREMISES AND DISTRIBUTORS.

The following table shows the number of registered premises and distributors within the district:—

Retail distributors	...	...	...	...	18
Retail distributors from other districts	...			...	6

Thirty-six principal and eleven supplementary licences were granted for the sale of designated milks.

(b) MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME.

As in previous years, samples of milk have been taken at regular intervals from the various schools in the area, which are supplied by three different distributors.

Thirty-two such samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination by the methylene blue and phosphatase tests, and all were found to be satisfactory.

PET SHOPS

All premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, were visited and inspected during the year and were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition and the licences renewed.

There are six pet shops in the Borough where fish, birds, mice, rabbits, reptiles and tortoises are sold; no shops sell puppies.

DISINFECTION

When required steam disinfections are carried out at the Council's plant at Cowley Mill Road following the occurrence of certain diseases. The installation has again been inspected by the Council's insurers and found to be maintained in good working order.

Home disinfections have been carried out following the occurrence of certain infectious and other specified diseases.

DISINFESTATION

During the year under review sixteen occupied private or Council dwelling houses, which were found to be infested with bugs or fleas, were disinfested.

The spraying of unoccupied Council houses was continued and during the year 138 new houses and 225 vacant houses were treated.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

As in previous years, the many watercourses, lakes, ponds, ditches, etc., throughout the District were treated with a larvaecide. The material used is manufactured specifically for mosquito control, and it is considered that some relief from this summer pest is afforded the residents in the area.

RODENT CONTROL

The rodent control section of the Public Health Department continued to operate, and works of disinfestation were carried out at factories, wholesale depots, business premises and private dwelling-houses. Works were also carried out at the Council's refuse tip, depots and premises.

The majority of the infestations investigated on business and private premises were found to be of minor character.

In continuance of the treatment of sewers first carried out in 1944 and repeated each year, two further maintenance treatments of the sewers in the town area of Uxbridge and the outer areas of the district were carried out during the year. Systematic baiting and poisoning campaigns took place and all areas of infestation detected were dealt with.

PATHOLOGICAL WORK

Material requiring pathological examination is sent to the Neasden Public Health Laboratory, but in certain instances this has been submitted to the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

There is close co-operation between the personal health services provided by the Middlesex County Council and the environmental health services of the Borough Council, as the Borough Medical Officer of Health is also the Area Medical Officer supervising the personal health services on behalf of the County Council.

An outline of the County Council services is given below:—

CLINICS

Central Hillingdon, British Legion Hall, Uxbridge Road	...	...	...	1
Hillingdon, Oak Farm Clinic, Long Lane				1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Harefield, St. Mary's Church Hall	...			1, 3, 4, 7
Ickenham Church Hall	...	...	...	1, 2, 4, 7
Uxbridge Clinic, Local County Offices, High Street	...	...	...	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10

Mobile Clinic attends—

Cowley Recreation Ground...	...	1, 4
Violet Farm Estate	... ..	4
British Legion Hall, Uxbridge Road		2, 4, 7
Harlington Road, Hillingdon	...	1
Dellside, Harefield	... ..	1

KEY TO SERVICES PROVIDED

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Child Welfare | 6. Ophthalmic |
| 2. Ante-Natal | 7. Post-natal |
| 3. School Minor Ailments | 8. Dental |
| 4. Immunisation and Vaccination | 9. Orthodontic |
| 5. Speech Therapy | 10. Orthopædic |

Times and days of various sessions may be obtained on enquiry at any of the Clinics or to the Area Health Office, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge. Uxbridge 8290.

HEALTH VISITING

The service makes available practical advice on all matters relating to the health of the family. Qualified Health Visitors, who are also School Nurses, are in attendance at clinic sessions and also visit homes where there are babies and young children.

DAY NURSERIES

High Street Day Nursery, Uxbridge.

All enquiries concerning applications for admission to Day Nurseries should be addressed to the Area Medical Officer, Area Health Office, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICES

MIDWIVES.

The following midwives practise in the Borough:—

Miss I. M. Bailey (District Nurse/Midwife), 13, Harvil Road, Harefield (Harefield 2233).

Miss B. Motton, 70, Ash Grove, Harefield.

Miss I. K. Gardner, 10 St. Giles Avenue, Ickenham (Ruislip 8010).

Miss J. Reed, 18, Churchill Avenue, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 3913).

Miss T. S. Kavanagh, 35, Orchard Waye, Uxbridge.

Miss E. I. Johnson, 35, Orchard Waye, Uxbridge.

HOME NURSES.

The following home nurses practise in the Borough:—

Harefield

Miss I. M. Bailey, 13, Harvil Road, Harefield (Harefield 2233).

Uxbridge

Mrs. E. M. Galley, "Wardley," Warren Road, Uxbridge
(Uxbridge 4775).

Cowley

Miss V. M. Colchester, 20, Morgans Lane, Hayes End
(Hayes 0124).

Hillingdon

Mrs. B. D. Galley, 9, Charville Lane West, Hillingdon
(Uxbridge 2895).

Mrs. M. T. Shannon, 35, Victoria Avenue, Hillingdon
(Uxbridge 8103).

Ickenham

Mrs. L. McKee, 10, Court Road, Ickenham (Ruislip 7558).

HOME HELP SERVICE

All enquiries concerning this service should be made to the Area Health Office, Uxbridge.

Home Help is provided in cases where an emergency arises owing to illness in the home and in cases of confinement taking place at home. Payment for this service is assessed according to income.

PRIVATE MIDWIVES AND PRIVATE NURSING HOMES

The names and addresses of Private Midwives and Private Nursing Homes can be supplied on application to the Area Health Office, Uxbridge.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION,

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation and vaccination will usually be carried out by family doctors. In addition, provision for these procedures is available at the various County Council Clinics.

CHIROPODY

A chiropody clinic for nursing and expectant mothers and children up to the age of five years, is held at Minet Clinic, Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, on Fridays, at 1.30 p.m. Attendance by appointment only.

SOME OTHER SERVICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service is administered by the Middlesex County Council Ambulance Service. In an emergency the Ambulance Service can be called by telephoning "999" or "0" and asking for Ambulance Service. Other enquiries should be made to County Medical Officer, Middlesex Ambulance Service Headquarters, The Mall, Kenton (WORDsworth 7724).

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

For the care of all children deprived of normal home life, adoptions, Child Life Protection, residential nurseries, etc.

Children's Area Officer, No. 8 Area:

F. W. Clay, Local County Offices, High Street,
Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

For the care and supervision of the aged and infirm and their effects; the supervision and assistance to the blind and other severely handicapped adults.

Area Welfare Officer, No. 8 Area:

A. E. Mansell, Local County Offices, High Street,
Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mental Welfare Officers (Duly Authorised), "Dragonfield," 259,
High Street, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

Divisional Mental Welfare Officer:

A. G. Ash, 69, Helen Avenue, Feltham (FELtham 2096).

Psychiatric Social Worker:

Miss E. Huneus, "Dragonfield," 259, High Street,
Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

Psychiatrist:

W. Robson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Child Guidance
Clinic, 255, High Street, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

NORTH KENSINGTON MARRIAGE WELFARE CENTRE

Branch Clinic (Birth Control, Gynæcology, Sub-Fertility, Marriage
Problems and Remedial Exercises):

Uxbridge Clinic, Local County Offices, High Street,
Uxbridge. Thursday, 1.45–3.15 p.m.; 5.30–7.0 p.m.

THE UXBRIDGE DEANERY ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL WELFARE WORK

Deanery Worker:

Miss L. G. Polman, St. Andrew's Church Hall, Hillingdon
Road, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 2208). Monday to Friday
10 a.m.–12 noon.